

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 /071 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8971
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO
USEC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SP
SUBJECT: POLITICAL POTPOURRI AND WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT

REF: MADRID 1100

1. THE RUSH IS ON TO LEGALIZATION. FELIPE GONZALEZ'
PSOE LOST THE RACE TO THE LEGALIZATION WINDOW YESTERDAY
TO THE SOCIALIST "HISTORICAL" FACTION, WHICH MAINTAINED AN
ALL-NIGHT VIGIL AT THE INTERIOR MINISTRY AND RUSHED IN
TO FILE AS SOON AS THE DOOR OPENED. THIS MAY MEAN THAT
THE DECISION ON WHICH GROUP IS AWARDED THE "LEGAL" PSOE
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LABEL COULD GO TO THE COURTS. IN ADDITION TO THE PSOE
AND TO THE HISTORICAL FACTION, FERNANDEZ ORDONEZ' NEWLY
CHRISTENED "PARTIDO SOCIALDEMOCRATA" (PSD), WHICH ALSO
REPORTEDLY FORMALLY LINKED UP WITH "CENTRO DEMOCRATICO"
YESTERDAY, BECAME THE THIRD AND LAST PARTY TO SOLICIT
LEGALIZATION BEFORE THE WINDOW COLSED.

2. A NUMBER OF PARTIES, INCLUDING THE PCE WHICH HAS JUST FILED AT WRITING, ARE EXPECTED TO FILE THEIR PAPERS TODAY. TIerno GALVAN OF THE SMALL POPULAR SOCIALIST PARTY (PSP) INDICATED TO A GROUP OF DIPLOMATS LAST NIGHT THAT HIS PARTY WOULD APPLY, ALTHOUGH HE COMPLAINED THAT THE FINAL DECREE-LAW (REFTEL, BY GIVING THE INTERIOR MINISTRY THE INITIATIVE IN REFERRING QUESTIONABLE CASES TO THE SUPREME COURT, WAS AT VARIANCE WITH THE FORMULA THE GOVT HAD ORIGINALLY VETTED WITH THE OPPOSITION, WHICH LEFT THE MATTER ENTIRELY IN THE HANDS OF THE COURT. (A METHOD WHICH CONFORMED TO OUR ORIGINAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE GOS' APPROACH.) AT ALL EVENTS, THE PSOE'S GONZALEZ REPORTEDLY STATED TO THE PRESS THAT THE NEW DECREE-LAW "HAS OVERCOME ALL THE OBSTACLES, CONVERTING THE LEGALIZATION PROCESS INTO A MERE DECLARATIVE PROCEDURE, SIMILAR TO THAT OF ANY DECOCRATIC COUNTRY."

3. PSOE FEDERAL COMMITTEE TO MEET. THE COMMITTEE, WHICH CONSISTS OF ABOUT 100 MEMBERS -- THE 19 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PLUS REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH PROVINCIAL ORGANIZATION -- AND IS AN INTERMEDIARY BODY BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE PARTY CONGRESS ITSELF, WILL MEET THIS WEEKEND FOR THE FIST TIME SINCE THE DECEMBER CONGRESS. AMONG THE ISSUES TO BE TREATED WILL BE THE PSOE'S ELECTORAL POSTURE AND THE REPLACEMENT OF FORMER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGUEL BOYER, WHO RESIGNED RECENTLY AND REPORTEDLY HAS SIGNED ON WITH FERNANDEZ ORDONEZ' PSD. INTERESTINGLY, THE COMMITTEE MEETING WILL MARK THE RETURN TO A MODEST LEADERSHIP POSITION OF FORMER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER PABLO CASTELLANO, WHO HAD RESIGNED ALL HIS POSTS AS THE RESULT OF CONTINUING DEFEATS AT THE HANDS OF THE SO-CALLED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SEVILLE (GONZALEZ/GUERRA)-BILBAO (MUGICA/REDONDO) AXIS. PARTY RADICAL AND "ENFANT TERRIBLE" CASTELLANO JOINS FELLOW RADICAL FRANCISCO BUSTELO AND MODERATE FORMER "HISTORICOS" GOMEZ AND TURRION ON THE "BALANCED" FOUR-MEMBER MADRID DELEGATION TO THE COMMITTEE. THE PSOE HAS TOLD THE GERMAN EMBASSY THAT CASTELLANO HAS NO CHANCE OF BEING CHOSEN TO FILL THE BOYER VACANCY.

4. WOULD YOU ACCEPT A USED CAR FROM THIS MAN? ACCORDING TO WEEKLY MAGAZINE "SABADO GRAFICO," ROMANIAN PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU HAS GIVEN PCE SECGEN CARRILLO AN ARMOR-PLATED CADILLAC FORMERLY IN HIS OWN PERSONAL SERVICE. THE AUTO-MOBILE SUPPOSEDLY IS CLEARING SPANISH CUSTOMS, ALTHOUGH ONE OF CARRILLO'S SONS, TO OUR DISAPPOINTMENT, HAS TOLD THE PRESS THAT HE KNOWS NOTHING OF THIS APOCRYPHAL GIFT.

5. COMMENT: WE ASSUME THAT THE GOS'S APPARENT ALTERATION OF THE PROCEDURE RESULTED FROM CONCERNS, PERHAPS WITHIN THE MILITARY AND ELSEWHERE, THAT THE GOVT RETAIN SOME

CONTROL OVER THE LEGALIZATION PROCESS, IF ONLY TO PREVENT THE ULTRA-RIGHT FROM TURNING IT INTO A CIRCUS AND TO ENSURE SOBER CONSIDERATION AT THE GOS' PACE OF THE PCE REGISTRATION. IN ANY EVENT, A DECISION ON THE PCE'S APPLICATION MUST NOW BE FORTHCOMING WITHIN A MAXIMUM PERIOD OF FORTY DAYS FROM TODAY: MARCH 22 BY OUR COUNT.STABLER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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